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**Foreign Broadcast
Information Service**

NEWSLETTER

Edition 86-1

1 January 1986

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NOTICE

Field Bureaus are reminded that copies of this Newsletter should be destroyed after reading by U.S. Staff employees. This Newsletter is not be to retained in field bureaus.

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NEWSLETTER

1 January 1986

MODERNIZATION DEVELOPMENTSAutomated FBIS System

MIDAS will be replaced by the first delivery of the Automated FBIS System (AFS), scheduled for October 1987. The initial design review for the AFS was held at Lockheed Electronics Corporation from 19 to 21 November. The review included the Headquarters publishing and composition systems for the Daily Reports and JPRS, the Wire Service, and all related communications. This was the first major milestone in the AFS development program. []

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AFS will, in effect, replace MIDAS with three systems: a VAX computer to handle internal and external communications, an ATEX system to handle the editorial terminals, and an XYVISION system to handle composition. In MIDAS, the TPS (text processing system) handles both editing and composition, the main reason it is so slow. The ATEX terminals, which the DRD will use, are very similar to the MIDAS terminals. No decision has yet been made regarding who will operate the composition terminals. Composition will, however, take place in FBIS so that editors can proofread final copy. []

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INTERNET Update

Contract negotiations have been concluded for construction of facilities required for Phase I of the INTERNET satellite communications system. Overseas Telecommunications Inc. (OTI) is the contractor selected to build the ground station at Quantico; British Telecommunications Inc. (BTI) will construct a terminal at a ground station in Madley, England; and INTERCOMSA will be the contractor for the Panama terminal, to be located at the bureau. The scheduled activation date for Phase I of INTERNET remains 1 October 1986. []

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Headquarters Television

A television technician from General Electric is now on duty in MOD. He will be involved in such matters as assembling and testing video equipment, training personnel, and devising new procedures. []

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FBIS Headquarters is now subscribing to CNN (Cable News Network), mainly for the benefit of the Wire Services Staff. It is also being received by MOD, Production Group, and AG. []

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HEADQUARTERS RELOCATION

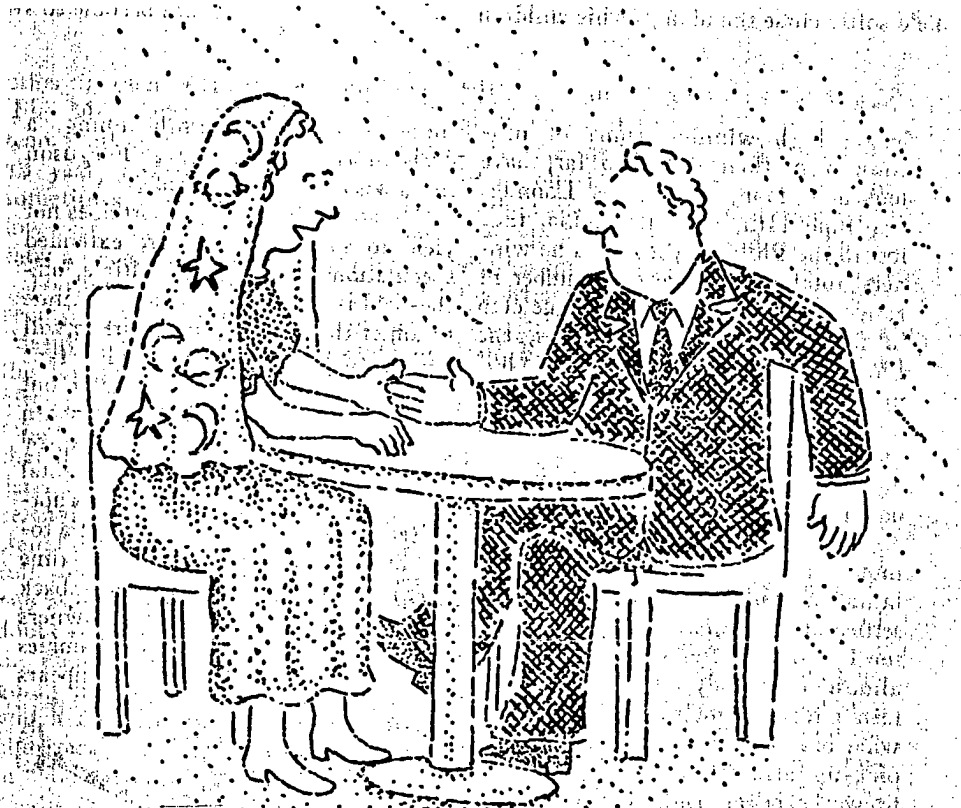
Plans for FBIS Headquarters relocation have become part of larger Agency space initiatives with the result that any move from Rosslyn will probably be delayed until 1988. It is reasonably certain that all FBIS components will be together. A decision is expected in January.

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IG SURVEY COMPLETED

The IG, which began its inspection of FBIS early in the fall, is preparing its final draft report. The inspectors have visited all the overseas installations, interviewed 40 percent of the staff employees, and have been fully briefed on all of our modernization activities. We look forward to their written report early in the new year.

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MANKOFF

*"You are fair, compassionate, and intelligent, but you are
perceived as biased, callous, and dumb."*

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NEWS FROM THE BUREAUS

Acceptance tests of the new Bangkok ROSET have been completed, the system is operating, and cruising has begun of viewable satellites. Preliminary cruising efforts have turned up television programming and press agencies from India, Indonesia, Malaysia, and the PRC. []

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The embassy has approved the installation of a ROSET, primarily for monitoring Brasilsat, at Paraguay Bureau. The contract has been let and the site survey completed, with full installation scheduled for February. []

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Construction has been started for the installation of three additional ROSET's at Panama Bureau. The projected date for having the new antennas operational is late February or early March. []

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A team from Okinawa and Hong Kong bureaus surveying Philippines media content completed the first phase of the survey on 20 December. The survey was carried out from Clark Air Force Base near Manila. The second phase of the survey, to be conducted in Cebu, will begin in mid-January. []

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In response to growing concern in Washington over developments in the Philippines, Hong Kong Bureau has expanded selection criteria on that country, especially from opposition media. Hong Kong output on the Philippines has grown immensely since coverage of the Manila Far East Broadcasting Company (FEBC) was transferred to Hong Kong from Okinawa 5 years ago. On 26 November, the fifth anniversary of that coverage transfer, the bureau filed 14,740 words on the Philippines, more than was being filed monthly from FEBC in 1980. []

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Work on the construction of the new Nicosia bureau was delayed because the contractor ceased work for 9 days while an overhead high-voltage powerline was removed. The architect believes, however, that the contractor can make up the lost time. The local communist party, AKEL, seized upon the construction as an issue to embarrass the Kyprianou government during the November-December election campaign. The specific charge was that President Kyprianou had approved construction of a large "spy station" on the outskirts of Nicosia. The communist party newspaper carried several articles, editorials, political cartoons, and pictures on the subject. The pictures showed several bureau employees inspecting the site and the bureau car. []

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In Abidjan, plans are moving forward to build a new embassy chancery. The bureau chief and other agency heads will be participating in discussions to consider inclusion of the agencies in the new chancery. []

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The DCI visited Key West Bureau for 45 minutes on the morning of 30 December. ☐

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Key West Bureau sustained minor damage from Hurricane Kate on 19 November, but was able to open for business as usual on the 20th. Panama Bureau backstopped most coverage while the bureau was closed. ☐

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The initiation of construction of the new FBIS housing project at Key West was delayed when workmen unexpectedly found remains of old foundations on the site. After a "change order" was made to the contract to cover the additional work required to clean up the site, groundwork was resumed on 12 November. ☐

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The Panama Bureau chief and chief technician made one of their twice-yearly tours of the remote sites in Managua, San Salvador, Tegucigalpa, and Guatemala City in the fall. Without exception, embassy officers at the four sites praised FBIS efforts and contributions. The DCM in San Salvador was particularly lavish in his compliments. At a meeting initiated by him, he said that the FBIS product is the single most important service to the embassy and that FBIS-monitored reports from the clandestine Salvadoran radios are the key ingredient in assessments of the threat to U.S. personnel in the country. ☐

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An additional staff editor slot has been approved by D/FBIS for Swaziland Bureau, where coverage has expanded in connection with the South African situation. The bureau received thanks from Embassy Pretoria for its "outstanding labors and responsiveness" to embassy and Washington needs in processing the plethora of press and broadcast materials on South Africa. ☐

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London Bureau continued to provide rapid service in processing major Soviet materials from satellite pressfax. PMU monitored the first official Soviet version of President Reagan's 31 October interview with four Soviet journalists from a 5 November pressfax edition of IZVESTIYA. A translation of both the interview and IZVESTIYA comments was in consumers' hands the afternoon of 4 November. The 35,000-word draft USSR Economic and Social Guidelines Through the Year 2000, carried in the 9 November PRAVDA, was monitored via satellite on 8 November and was available in translation to Washington analysts on 9 November. ☐

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London Bureau, using an advance Russian-language copy faxed from Headquarters of President Reagan's New Year's Day address to the Soviet people, was able to confirm almost immediately at broadcast time that the version of the message actually broadcast in Russian on Moscow TV was identical to the prereleased remarks except for several minor grammatical changes. This was followed up by reports on the amount of time devoted by the Soviet media to the remarks by the President and General Secretary Gorbachev. Seven videotapes of the message as carried on Moscow TV were prepared in Washington and made available to consumers immediately. ☐

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PRODUCTION GROUP DEVELOPMENTS

The Production Group S&T Center will be officially inaugurated on 21 January. It will start initially with two branches. The Soviet Scientific and Applied Research Branch will include a Physical Sciences and Industries Program and a Chemical/Biological Sciences and Technologies Program. The Competitive and Emerging Technologies Branch will include a Far East Program and a Europe Program. ☐

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The new S&T Unit in Milan has started operations. It will concentrate on collection and translation of scientific and technological material, including European databases. The unit is located within the U.S. Consulate. ☐

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The Antwerp S&T Unit has begun on-line exploitation of two commercial databases. Searches of three additional databases will begin soon. ☐

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ELAAD has been tasked to provide support for a request from the Embassy in Managua for translations of censored Managua LA PRENSA articles, forwarded from the Embassy to FBIS Headquarters for translation and publication. Arrangements have been made with JPRS for quick translations of the material, which is published as an FOUO JPRS SPECIAL TRANSLATION and disseminated to all recipients of the Latin America Daily Report. P&PD provides 24-hour turnaround time. ☐

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JPRS contract translators submitting work on diskettes now number 111, and two contract typists are similarly using diskettes. Due primarily to the impact of automated processing, JPRS is no longer accepting applications for contract typists. ☐

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The JPRS Reference Aid GUIDE TO TRANSLATION OF THE LAO AND THAI PRESS, A GLOSSARY was published in November. In addition to an updated glossary, the reference aid contains other useful information such as military and police ranks, and government ministries and commissions. ☐

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 AWARD

☐ retired from Production Group, was presented the Intelligence Commendation Medal by ADDS&T James V. Hirsch on 2 December 1985. ☐

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 BBC NEWS

Henry Pavlovich has been appointed Editor, News and Publications, Monitoring Service, replacing Roland Challis. Challis will remain acting General Manager, Monitoring Service until a permanent appointment is made. ☐

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ANALYSIS GROUP ACTIVITIES

At the request of National Security Adviser McFarlane, relayed by the White House Situation Room, AG on 20 November provided a rapid telephonic analysis for the WHSR comparing Soviet media coverage of Gorbachev's meetings with President Reagan with coverage of the Gorbachev meeting with Jesse Jackson. AG and Media Notes also prepared a worldwide reaction report on the Geneva summit, at the request of the Assistant NIO/USSR, for use by the DDCI at a White House briefing on 22 November. []

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Among several late requests for FBIS materials for possible use in Geneva, AG supplied the NIO's office with original copies and caption translations of several recent Soviet cartoons attacking U.S. policies. Similarly, AG provided samples of recent Soviet attacks on the President to ACDA Director Adelman. []

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Vice President Bush expressed appreciation to the PDB staff for an AG analysis of Chinese media treatment of his China trip. The paper indicated that the Chinese had made a special effort to show cordiality to him. []

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At the request of the Vice President, through the PDB staff, AG provided a synopsis of Soviet commentary on Secretary of State Schultz's visit to West and East Europe. The Vice President was especially interested in any differences among Soviet allies. []

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AG responded to a request from the NSC Staff for a computer printout on authoritative Soviet statements on the 1972 ABM Treaty, particularly on the application of the treaty to future systems and the implications of agreed statement D on other physical principles. []

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FBIS CHRISTMAS PARTY

An overflow crowd once again this year helped transform the staid 4th floor conference room into a partygoer's paradise as Headquarters merrymakers turned down the lights, popped corks, feasted, and celebrated the annual FBIS Christmas party on 20 December. The afternoon was capped by [] raffleing off white elephant stocking stuffers donated by people who reportedly claimed to have won some of the same prizes last year. []

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STORAGE TRANSFER

Beginning in January 1986, the Agency is arranging for the transfer of all remaining storage lots in [] to other Agency contractors, primarily []. Representatives of the gaining companies and of Central Travel Service will be on hand for each lot transfer and a thorough inventory of all items will be conducted. This transfer is planned to be completed by 28 February 1986. []

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DEATHS

FBIS was saddened to learn that former Comcenter teletypist Shirley Ann Hill died on 1 December of cancer. (U)

FBIS has learned of the death of George Boudrias on 14 December. Mr. Boudrias was a founder of JPRS. (U)

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